

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/810,497

Examiner

Christopher Onuaku

Applicant(s)

OHTA ET AL.

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/9/01&9/4/02
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-10 are allowable over the prior art of record.
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 1, the invention relates to a method and a device for reproducing video and audio that is capable of a special form of reproduction such as pause or slow reproduction of video and audio.

The closest references Fujinami (US 5,502,573) discloses apparatus for reproducing multiplexed data from a record medium, such as time division multiplexed video and audio data recorded on an optical disk, including such apparatus which senses synchronization errors and controls video and audio decoding as a function of those errors, and Daum et al (US 5,815,634) teach the field of multimedia systems, including a synchronizing method and circuitry for a multimedia PC, wherein circuitry provides synchronization between audio playback and the video display.

However, Fujinami and Daum et al fail to explicitly disclose an apparatus for reproducing video and audio, where the apparatus further comprises a synchronization control unit which suspends video output of the video decoder and audio output of the audio decoder, and resumes the audio output a certain time period after resuming the

Art Unit: 2616

video output where the certain time period corresponds to a period from the suspension of the video output to the suspension of the audio output.

Regarding claim 8, the invention relates to a method and a device for reproducing video and audio that is capable of a special form of reproduction such as pause or slow reproduction of video and audio.

The closest references Fujinami (US 5,502,573) discloses apparatus for reproducing multiplexed data from a record medium, such as time division multiplexed video and audio data recorded on an optical disk, including such apparatus which senses synchronization errors and controls video and audio decoding as a function of those errors, and Daum et al (US 5,815,634) teach the field of multimedia systems, including a synchronizing method and circuitry for a multimedia PC, wherein circuitry provides synchronization between audio playback and the video display.

However, Fujinami and Daum et al fail to explicitly disclose a method of reproducing video and audio, where the method further comprises the steps of suspending video output and audio output, resuming video output, and resuming the audio a certain time period after the resuming of the video output, where the certain time period corresponds to a period from the suspension of the video output to the suspension of the audio output.

Regarding claim 10, the invention relates to a method and a device for reproducing video and audio that is capable of a special form of reproduction such as pause or slow reproduction of video and audio.

The closest references Fujinami (US 5,502,573) discloses apparatus for reproducing multiplexed data from a record medium, such as time division multiplexed video and audio data recorded on an optical disk, including such apparatus which senses synchronization errors and controls video and audio decoding as a function of those errors, and Daum et al (US 5,815,634) teach the field of multimedia systems, including a synchronizing method and circuitry for a multimedia PC, wherein circuitry provides synchronization between audio playback and the video display.

However, Fujinami and Daum et al fail to explicitly disclose a system for reproducing video and audio, where the system further comprises a synchronization control unit which suspends video output of the video decoder unit and audio output of the audio decoder unit, and resumes the audio output a certain time period after resuming the video output, where the certain time period corresponds to a period from the suspension of the video output to the suspension of the audio output.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kuboji et al (US 5,768,467) teach a character display control apparatus suitable for use with, for example, a closed caption decoder.

Art Unit: 2616

Abecassis (US 5,953,485) teaches systems and methods of automatically customizing a viewer-selected video response to the application of the viewer's video content preferences to a segment map of the video.

Duruez et al (US 6,654,539) teach management of trick playback of digital video, including wherein a single-chip application specific integrated circuit (ASIC) having its own central processing unit (CPU), which provides autonomous management of playback of digital video and audio within the ASIC.

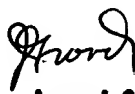
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Onuaku whose telephone number is 571-272-7379. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on 571-272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


COO

11/10/05.


James J. Groody
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 262 2616